APPROACHING THE FRONTIER OF THE KREE EMPIRE...
WHEN THE STARJAMMERS CAME TO US, THEY CAME WILD AND HEADLONG, THE WAY THEY LIVE EVERY MINUTE OF THEIR SWASHBUCKLING LIVES.
KREE FRONTIER! CALLING KREE FRONTIER! THIS IS THE STARJAMMER!
POLARIS
HAVOK
MARVEL GIRL
LILANDRA
CH'OD
KORVUS
I REPEAT! KREE FRONTIER! THIS IS THE STARJAMMER!
WE ARE INBOUND SUPERLUMINAL! REQUEST YOU RAISE YOUR BORDER SHIELD NOW!
ZERO RESPONSE! NOTHING!
THEY BURNED IN TOWARDS THE BARRIER SURROUNDING KREE SPACE AT VELOCITIES THAT TESTED THE TOLERANCES OF THEIR SHIP'S DRIVEFRAME.
AS USUAL, YOU SEE, DANGER WAS AT THEIR HEELS.

THE SHI'AR SUPERDESTROYER DIVINE PRINCIPLES OF IMMOLATION HAD FOUND THEM.
TO THE SHI'AR, THE STARJAMMERS WERE ABHORRED DISSIDENTS AND TERRORISTS.
TARGET SHIP WILL REACH THE FRONTIER IN THIRTY-SIX SECONDS, LORD.
AND HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU NEED TO GET A WEAPONS-LOCK?
BARRIER'S STILL SOLID, HAVOK.
HRM. WE'RE ALL GOING TO WIND UP VERY TALL AND VERY THIN.
KREE FRONTIER, THIS IS THE STARJAMMER! I REPEAT--
GIVE ME THAT, ALEX.
KREE FRONTIER, THIS IS LORNA DANE ABOARD THE STARJAMMER.
I AM SISTER-IN-LAW TO CRYSTAL AMAQUELIN MAXIMOFF OF THE ATTILAN ROYAL FAMILY.
I AM HERE TO ATTEND THE MARRIAGE OF CRYSTAL AND RONAN THE ACCUSER. I REQUEST YOU LET US THROUGH THE BARRIER WITHOUT DELAY.
WELL, LET'S HOPE OUR NAMES ARE ON THE GUEST LIST.

THE FRONTIER GUARD MOVED WITH GREAT HASTE TO PHASE OPEN A PORTAL IN THE BARRIER AND ADMIT THE STARJAMMER.
THEY DID NOT, HOWEVER, MAKE PHASE ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE SUPERDESTROYER FIVE SECONDS BEHIND IT.
LORD... MY LORD!
OH SHARRA'S T--
AND THAT WAS HOW THE STARJAMMERS CAME TO MY WEDDING.

HALA, THE KREE HOMEWORLD...
IT'S COMPLICATED.
ASUNDER
DAN ABNETT & ANDY LANNING WRITERS
PAUL PELLETIER PENCILER
RICK MAGYAR INKER
WIL QUINTANA COLORIST
VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERER
BRANDON PETERSON COVER ARTIST
MICHAEL HORWITZ ASST. EDITOR
BILL ROSEMANN EDITOR
JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

I FIGURED THAT MUCH, CRYSTAL.
YOU'RE MARRYING RONAN THE ACCUSER.
LET'S JUST HEAR THAT IN ITALICS.
RONAN.
THE ACCUSER.
LORNA, THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE WE LAST MET.
THEY'VE CHANGED A LOT.
AGAIN, I FIGURED SO. LUNA'S GROWN SO BIG, HAVEN'T YOU, LUNA?
BIG AND TALL, AUNTIE LORNA!
AND THE CITY OF ATTILAN IS PARKED ON THE KREE HOMEWORLD, AND BLACK BOLT HAS APPARENTLY BECOME KING OF THE KREE.
PLUS, YOU'RE GETTING HITCHED TO RONAN.
THE ACCUSER.
STOP SAYING IT LIKE THAT!
THINGS HAVE CHANGED. THE INHUMANS ARE NOT GOING TO BE VICTIMS ANYMORE.
WE ARE TAKING CHARGE OF OUR OWN DESTINY.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN COACHED TO SAY.
WELL, IT'S NOT. WE SHOULD HAVE BECOME THIS DECISIVE YEARS AGO.
GENERATIONS BACK, THE KREE BUILT US TO BE THEIR ELITE. SO BE IT.
WE WILL LEAD THEM, AND HELP THEM TO SHAPE A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL FUTURE.
WE'VE BEEN A ROYAL FAMILY FOR A LONG TIME, LORNA. WE'RE VERY GOOD AT IT.
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE HAD SOMEONE TO RULE.
AND DO WHAT? CONQUER THE GALAXY?
THE LIST OF PEOPLE WHO WON'T LIKE THAT STARTS WITH THE SHI'AR.

BLACK BOLT HAS NOT YET INFORMED US OF THE POLICIES WE WILL PURSUE BEYOND KREE SPACE.
TIGHT-LIPPED, HUH?
SO TYPICAL OF BLACK BOLT.
SO THIS WEDDING, IT'S ALL ABOUT BRINGING THE KREE AND THE INHUMANS TOGETHER, IS IT?
IT'S A SYMBOL OF UNIFICATION.
BESIDES, I WAS PROMISED TO HIM ANYWAY.
COME ON, CRYSTAL, THAT'S THE SORT OF PROMISE A GIRL CAN CHOOSE NOT TO KEEP.
ROYAL MARRIAGES ARE ABOUT CONSOLIDATING POWER AND INFLUENCE, LORNA. I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO UNDERSTAND.
GOSH, NO, IT'S QUITE BEYOND AN IGNORANT PEASANT LIKE ME.
LORNA, I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT.
I'M NOT MARRYING HIM FOR LOVE.
IT'S ABOUT DUTY. IT'S ABOUT STATE CEREMONY. IT'S ABOUT LIFTING THE MORALE OF THE PEOPLE.
NEITHER I NOR THE ACCUSER ARE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO THINK IT REPRESENTS ANY KIND OF PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP.
YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL BY THE WAY, CRYS.
SO... I HEAR LILANDRA NERAMANI WAS ABOARD THE STARJAMMER WHEN IT DOCKED.
SHE WAS.
THAT'S GOING TO CAUSE A STIR...

"...THE DEPOSED EMPRESS OF THE SHI'AR ATTENDING A KREE ROYAL WEDDING."
MY LORD BLACK BOLT. I AM LILANDRA NERAMANI, ONCE GLORIANA MAJESTRIX-SHI'AR OF THE AERIE, NOW AN EXILE.
I RESPECTFULLY ASK THE KREE EMPIRE FOR ASYLUM.
HANG ON. IF WE SAY YES, WON'T IT MAKE THAT PSYCHOPATH VULCAN JOLLY ANNOYED WITH US?
PLEASE EXCUSE THE UNSOLICITED POLITICAL COMMENTARY, OFFERED BY THE KING'S BROTHER, MAXIMUS.
I SPEAK FOR BLACK BOLT.
THEN I THROW MYSELF UPON YOUR MERCY, LADY MEDUSA.
THE INHUMANS AND THE KREE ARE CONJOINING THEIR STRENGTHS UNDER YOUR HUSBAND'S BENEVOLENT RULE.
I BELIEVE YOU CAN OFFER ME SANCTUARY FROM VULCAN'S BRUTAL REGIME.
IN TIME, I HOPE YOU MAY EVEN OPPOSE HIM.
CONFLICT WITH THE MIGHTY SHI'AR IS NOT SOMETHING WE INTEND TO PURSUE, LILANDRA.
FORGIVE ME, YOU MAY NOT BE GIVEN A CHOICE, WHETHER YOU GRANT ME ASYLUM OR NOT.
VULCAN HAS NEVER SEEN A TRACT OF SPACE THAT HE DIDN'T THINK WOULD LOOK BETTER WITH HIS FLAG FLYING OVER IT.
SO WE HAVE HEARD.
THEN BE WARNED. THE IMPERIAL GUARD--
THE IMPERIAL GUARD, FOR ALL ITS REPUTATION, HAS NEVER MET THE NEW INHUMAN ELITE.

SHI'AR FLAGSHIP HAMMER II
GUARDSMAN NEUTRON.
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF EMPEROR VULCAN.
GUARDSMAN PLUTONIA.
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF EMPEROR VULCAN.
GUARDSMAN MANTA.
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF EMPEROR VULCAN.
GUARDSMAN SMASHER.
I SERVE AT--
DIDN'T I KILL YOU?
MAJESTY?
SALAC TUUR HAS BEEN RECRUITED TO REPLACE THE LATE VRIL ROKK.
OKAY, MY MISTAKE. CARRY ON.
GUARDSMAN SQUORM.
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF EMPEROR VULCAN.
YES, YES. VERY GOOD.
GUARDSMAN STARBOLT.
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF EMPEROR VULCAN.
GUARDSMAN MENTOR.
I S--
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH. I'M BORED NOW.
ARE WE GOOD TO GO?
ALL FLIGHT PATCHES ARE ENABLED, AND ALL GUARDSMAN POWERS AND SKILL SETS ARE CERTIFIED COMBAT READY.
STRIKE COORDINATES HAVE BEEN LOCKED INTO THE DEEP-RANGE TELEPARTURE SYSTEM AND--
WHAT GUARDSMAN MENTOR MEANS, MY EMPEROR...

...IS THE IMPERIAL GUARD IS READY TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH AT YOUR COMMAND.
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE EMPEROR. I ALWAYS HAVE.
I AM PRAETOR OF THE SHI'AR IMPERIAL GUARD. I AM KALLARK, THE LAST SON OF STRONTIA. I AM GLADIATOR.
LIKE MANY ADOPTED SONS, I AM FIERCELY DEVOTED.
MAJESTOR OR MAJESTRIX, IT DOESN'T MATTER. I SERVE THEM ALL, THE GOOD AND THE BAD, THEY COME AND GO, THE GREAT AND THE WORTHY, THE WEAK AND THE TYRANNICAL.
I AM THE ONE CONSTANT.
LOYALTY IS WHAT I DO. LOYALTY TO THE OFFICE, NOT THE PERSON.
LOYALTY IS ALL THAT DEFINES ME.
NO MATTER WHAT MY PRIVATE OPINIONS OF THE ONE I SERVE.
NO MATTER THAT HE IS NOT SHI'AR BORN, BUT RATHER A MUTANT HUMAN USURPER DRIVEN BY HIS OWN AMBITIONS.
INTELFEED FROM THE KREE HOMEWORLD CONFIRMS THE CEREMONY IS NOW UNDERWAY, MAJESTOR.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, PRAETOR?
WON'T THEY LOVE MY WEDDING PRESENT?
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE EMPEROR.

TODAY I SERVE HIM BY PARTICIPATING IN THE INVASION OF THE KREE STELLAR EMPIRE.
MOST OF THE WORK WILL BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE IMPERIAL FLEET. THEY WILL BEGIN A PURIFICATION CAMPAIGN OF THE KREE OUTWORLDS AS SOON AS THE BARRIER COMES DOWN.
THE IMPERIAL GUARD WILL BE EMPLOYED FOR A MORE SPECIFIC PURPOSE. AN EHS'TYL ASSAULT.
INTELFEED TELLS US THAT THE KREE, BY TRADITION, CONDUCT THEIR DYNASTIC CEREMONIES ON THE GON-KET GLACIER NEAR THE SOUTHERN POLE OF THE HOMEWORLD, HALA.
KREE ICESMITHS CARVE THE GLACIER INTO A RITUAL PALACE. AIRSHIPS FERRY IN A HUNDRED THOUSAND GUESTS.

MANY OF THEM ARE DELEGATES FROM THE INTERSTELLAR COMMUNITY.
NO SHI'AR ENVOY HAS BEEN INVITED.
EHS'TYL, BY THE WAY, IS A SHI'AR WORD THAT MEANS, LITERALLY, "BURSTING CRANIUM."
HEADSHOT. IF YOU WILL.

THE BABEL SPIRE IN KARLA'S PRINCIPAL CITY...
SIRE? EXCUSE ME, SIRE? HELLO?
SIRE, AREN'T YOU GOHMEN AHUUD OF THE AAKONIAN DELEGATION?
SIRE, YOU SHOULD BE AT THE GLACIER BY NOW. THE CEREMONY'S BEGUN.
THIS IS THE FAMOUS SPIRE, IS IT?
THE SPIRE THAT GENERATES YOUR EMPIRE'S PROTECTIVE BARRIER?
HAS HE BEEN DRINKING?
SIRE, YOU'RE MISSING THE WEDDING.
I KNOW.
I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO.
HOLY PAMA! SHAPESHIFTER! SHAPESHIFTER!
I SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF EMPEROR VULCAN.
CLAW

...SO AS WITH ALLATAIN, SO WITH BAHODAS AND THE ILLUSTRIOUS SERVANTS OF ESHMIR, AND IN THE TIME OF THE SEVENTH HARVEST, SO--

--

WHAT IN PAMA'S NAME WAS THAT?!
ACCUSER? WHAT'S HAPPENED?

OH!
RACHEL?
HUGE. NHH. HUGE HUGE HUGE TELEPORT BURST!
SHARRA AND KYTHRI...
HE WOULDN'T DARE.

IMPERIAL
SHIVAN FLEET
MAJESTY, THE [redacted] SHIELD [redacted] IS [redacted] THE INVASION HAS COMMENCED.
BATTLEGROUP THREE HAS BEGUN ORBITAL BOMBARDMENT OF THE KREE OUTWORLDS FEH-NEN, DISRADI AND JIR-PON.
BATTLEGROUP NINE [redacted] LANDED GROUND FORCES TO TAKE THE [redacted] COLONIES AT CYBAL [redacted] AND 66 BETA TAU.
FLEET TASKFORCE WOLFSPIDER HAS ENGAGED KREE NAVY SQUADRONS IN THE GULF OF SARENTA.
BATTLEGROUP TWO IS ASSULTING RADIUS EIGHTEEN. COMMANDER FE'EYHT REQUESTS PERMISSION TO...TO USE NEGA-BOMBS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, ADMIRAL KA'ARDUM?
I THINK NEGA-BOMBS ARE THE MOST ABOMINABLE DEVICES WE HAVE EVER MANUFACTURED, MAJESTY.
HMMM. ME TOO. LET'S USE LOTS OF [redacted]
THIS INVASION STUFF IS ALL WELL AND GOOD, ADMIRAL, BUT TELL [redacted] WHAT I REALLY [redacted] TO HEAR...

"...HOW FARES MY IMPERIAL GUARD?"
SHOCKWAVE INSERTION. OUR SONIC BOOMS SOUND LIKE THE GLACIER JUST SNAPPED IN HALF.
THE CONCUSSION OVERPRESSURE PULPS ORGANS AND PULVERIZES BONE.
SKWEEEE--
BUT NOT EVERYTHING WE HAVE TO KILL HERE IS ALIVE.
THE KREE SENTRIES ARE PROFICIENT COMBAT SYSTEMS SO WE JUST DON'T GIVE THEM TIME TO TARGET-LOCK.
OH THOSE ********!
AUNTIE LORNA! AUNTIE LORNA!
LOCKJAW! GET LUNA OUT OF HERE! GET HER OUT OF HERE NOW!
HOW CAN VULCAN BE MY BROTHER, LORNA? HOW CAN I BE RELATED TO ANYONE WHO COULD ORCHESTRATE THIS?

KRCK
A MOMENT LATER, I REALIZE I WILL BE FORCED TO FIND ANOTHER RECRUIT TO FILL THE SMASHER UNIFORM.
FOR THE MOST PART, OUR ENEMY IS TOO NUMB WITH SURPRISE TO COMPOSE A PROPER DEFENSE.
FOR THE MOST PART.

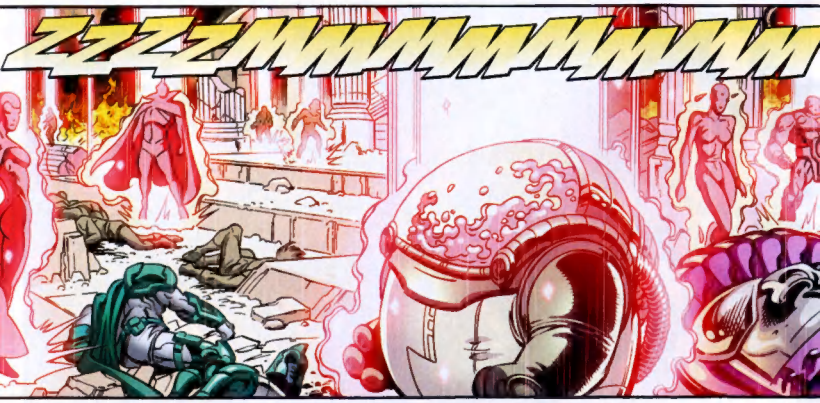
WHITE NOISE! NOW!
SHE HITS HIM WITH A CONE OF NOISE-CANCELLING SONICS. HER POWER'S NOT ON HIS SCALE, BUT IT'S ENOUGH TO STUN HIM FOR A SECOND.
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY TO THAT, EH, YOUR MAJESTY?

KRA-BOOM
BLACK BOLT!
THE KING IS DOWN!
AARRRGGHHH!
AND SO ARE YOU, YOU UGLY
VZAPPPPP
MMMM

CH'OD! THIS WAY!
HRM! WATCH YOUR BACK, LADY!
HELLO, MY MAJESTY.
NGHH!
VOYAGER, A JUMP-DOOR, PLEASE.
SKKK!
NO!
NO! NO, NO, NO!
LILANDR-
-AAAARGH!
ZWRP

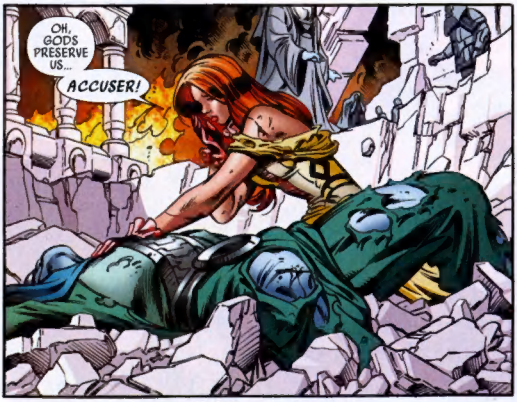
AHHH!
CRYSTAL!
FWOOSH
GET OFF HER!
GHHK
NNNGH! FACE ME FROM THE FRONT, YOU BACKSTABBING JACKAL!
SHRRIPP
NGHHK!

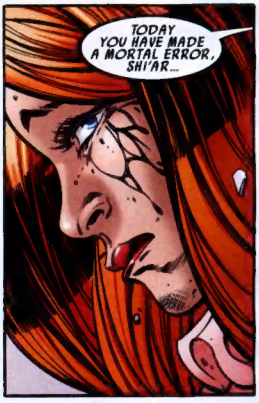
ARE WE DONE HERE, PRAETOR?
I BELIEVE WE'VE MADE OUR POINT.
EXECUTE TELEPARTURE BOUNCE.
VWRX


ZZZZMMMMMMMMMM

THEY BEAMED OUT! THEY'VE GONE!
HAVOK, THEY'VE TAKEN LILANDRA!

IS CH'OD'S FAULT! THEY HAVE OUR EMP--
NHHH! GNNGG!


OH, GODS PRESERVE US...
ACCUSER!

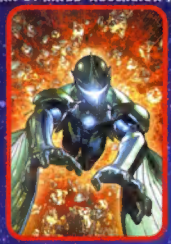

TODAY YOU HAVE MADE A MORTAL ERROR, SHI'AR...

...AND YOU SHALL PAY IN BLOOD!
TO BE CONTINUED!

WAR of KINGS

The first shots in a battle of imperial proportions have been fired! The Shi'Ar and the Inhumans are now locked in a deadly collision course, and the waves of destruction will wash across the universe! Which of the pawns in this epic clash will be the first to fall...and who will rise to become legends? When kings wage war, who is caught in the crossfire...and who will rule?

WAR OF KINGS: ASCENSION #1



WAR OF KINGS #2

GUARDIANS #14

APRIL:
- GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #13
- NOVA #24
- WAR OF KINGS: ASCENSION #1 (of 4)
- WAR OF KINGS #2 (OF 6)

MAY:
- GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #14
- NOVA #25
- WAR OF KINGS: ASCENSION #2 (of 4)
- WAR OF KINGS #3 (of 6)

JUNE:
- GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #15
- NOVA #26
- WAR OF KINGS: ASCENSION #3 (of 4)
- WAR OF KINGS #4 (of 6)

JULY:
- GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #16
- NOVA #27
- WAR OF KINGS: ASCENSION #4 (of 4)
- WAR OF KINGS #5 (of 6)

AUGUST:
- GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #17
- NOVA #28
- WAR OF KINGS #6 (of 6)

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